

Appln. Serial No. 09/871,240  
Amendment Dated June 11, 2007  
Reply to Office Action Mailed March 13, 2007

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CURRENT LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1        1. (Cancelled)
- 1        2. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for use in a wellbore, comprising:  
2              an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
3              downhole task; and  
4              a component including a seal engageable with the element.
- 1        3. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for use in a wellbore, comprising:  
2              an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
3              downhole task; and  
4              a component including an anchor actuatable by the element.
- 1        4. (Cancelled)
- 1        5. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for use in a wellbore, comprising:  
2              an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
3              downhole task,  
4              wherein the element includes a sand screen.
- 1        6. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for use in a wellbore, comprising:  
2              an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
3              downhole task; and  
4              a shock absorber including the element.
- 1        7. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for use in a wellbore, comprising:  
2              an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
3              downhole task; and  
4              a releasable connector mechanism including the element.

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1           29. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the apparatus  
2 comprises a patch.

1           30. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 27, further comprising a carrier  
2 line and a tool carried by the carrier line for deployment into the well, wherein the tool comprises  
3 the element formed of the superplastic material and the component including the seal, the tool  
4 further comprising a heating device to heat the superplastic material to a temperature such that  
5 the element exhibits superplastic behavior.

1           31. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 30, further comprising a piston  
2 adapted to cause translation of the element.

1           32. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for use in a wellbore, comprising:  
2                 an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
3 downhole task;  
4                 a component including a seal engageable with the element, wherein the element is  
5 adapted to translate the seal into engagement with a downhole structure; and  
6                 a heating device to heat the superplastic material to a temperature such that the  
7 element exhibits superplastic behavior,  
8                 wherein the heating device comprises a propellant.

1           33. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 2, further comprising a conduit,  
2 wherein the element comprises a plug to block fluid flow in a bore of the conduit.

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1       34. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for use in a wellbore, comprising:  
2                   an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
3                   downhole task;  
4                   a component including a seal engageable with the element;  
5                   a conduit, wherein the element comprises a plug to block fluid flow in a bore of  
6                   the conduit; and  
7                   a port to communicate fluid pressure to deform the plug inwardly to enable  
8                   movement of the plug.

1        35. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the component  
2                   comprises a packer including the anchor.

1        36. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 35, wherein the packer further  
2                   comprises a seal,  
3                   wherein the element comprises one or more sleeves attached to the anchor and the  
4                   seal, the one or more sleeves adapted to translate the anchor and seal into engagement with a  
5                   downhole structure.

1        37. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for use in a wellbore, comprising:  
2                   a carrier line; and  
3                   a tool carried by the carrier line for deployment into the wellbore, comprising:  
4                   an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
5                   downhole task,  
6                   wherein the element is selected from the group consisting of a casing, a  
7                   liner, a tubing, and a pipe; and  
8                   a heating device to heat the element to a temperature such that the element  
9                   exhibits superplastic behavior.

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1       38. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 5, further comprising a heating  
2 device to heat the sand screen to a temperature such that the sand screen exhibits superplastic  
3 behavior.

1       39. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for use in a wellbore, comprising:  
2              an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
3 downhole task; and  
4              a heating device to heat the element to a temperature sufficient to cause the  
5 element to exhibit superplastic behavior,  
6              wherein the heating device comprises a propellant.

1       40. – 41. (Cancelled)

1       42. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for use in a wellbore, comprising:  
2              an element formed of a superplastic material to perform a predetermined  
3 downhole task;  
4              a junction seal assembly comprising the element; and  
5              a heating device to heat the element to a temperature sufficient to cause the  
6 element to exhibit superplastic behavior,  
7              wherein the heating device comprises a propellant.

1       43. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 42, wherein the element comprises  
2 one of a tubing and pipe to be inserted into a lateral wellbore.

1       44. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the superplastic  
2 material exhibits elongation to failure in excess of 200%.

1       45. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the superplastic  
2 material has a fine equi-axed grain structure that remains stable during deformation.

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- 1        46. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 45, wherein a grain size of the fine
- 2        equi-axed grain structure is in a range of 2 to 10 micrometers.
  
- 1        47. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the superplastic
- 2        material exhibits elongation to failure in excess of 200%.
  
- 1        48. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the superplastic
- 2        material has a fine equi-axed grain structure that remains stable during formation.
  
- 1        49. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 48, wherein a grain size of the fine
- 2        equi-axed grain structure is in a range of 2 to 10 micrometers.